

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace paragraph beginning at page 1, second full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:**

A<sup>1</sup> An ink jet recording apparatus used in a large number of ~~prints~~ printers adopts such an ink supply structure that an ink cartridge such as a cassette is put in a casing member, the ink cartridge is connected through an ink supply tube to an ink supply unit mounted on a carriage, and ink consumed in printing is supplied to a recording head through the ink supply unit including a differential pressure valve mechanism comprising a membrane valve.

**Please replace paragraph beginning at page 1, third full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:**

A<sup>2</sup> By adopting this structure, ~~the ink~~ according to the amount of ink consumption in the recording head, ink can be supplied to the recording head by opening and closing of the membrane valve.

**Please replace paragraph beginning at page 2, second full paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:**

A<sup>3</sup> According to this membrane valve, the through-hole can be brought into contact with or separated from a valve seat correspondingly to the very small differential pressure using the bending portion. However, since it is necessary for this membrane valve to simultaneously form a frame portion having a large section which functions as a support portion at its periphery, there is a disadvantage in that it is necessary to be skilled in constituting at a high accuracy the bending portion that affects elasticity of the membrane valve greatly.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No. 10/070,381

**Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following new Abstract of the Disclosure.**

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A4  
An angled portion that is concentric with respect to an ink passing port (4) is formed in a central region (7) of a membrane portion (2) to function as an elasticity providing portion, whereby the influence produced when a thick portion is injection molded at the periphery is removed from affecting elasticity of a membrane valve.

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